

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

AND OF THE

Receipts and Expenditures

OF THE

TOWN OF PALMER,

For the Year ending March, 1874.

PALMER, MASS.:

JOURNAL PRESS.—G. M. FISK & CO.

1874.



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ASSESSORS' REPORT.

Valuation of the Town of Palmer, 1873 :

Real estate,	\$1,043,624
Personal estate,	537,569
Total,	<u>\$1,581,193</u>

Whole No. polls, 896.

Tax on polls, \$2.00.

Rate of taxation, \$1.50 to the \$100.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1873.

For Schools,	\$5,000 00
Poor,	1,500 00
Roads,	2,500 00
Bridges,	3,000 00
School Houses,	1,200 00
Lock-Up,	1,000 00
Interest on town debt,	700 00
Contingencies,	5,000 00
State tax,	2,610 00
County tax,	2,550 75
Overlays,	453 46
	<u>\$25,514 21</u>

JOHN CLOUGH, } Assessors
C. C. SHAW, } of
E. B. GATES, } Palmer.

TREASURER'S REPORT

OF THE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR
ENDING MARCH 4, 1874.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in Treasury, March 4, 1873,	\$2,147 49
Received of State Treasurer, State aid, 1872,	1,100 00
" " Corporation tax,	227 39
" " National Bank tax,	373 43
" " State paupers,	115 37
" " Income Mass. School fund,	245 47
County Treasurer, dog tax,	368 62
Interest on Merrick fund,	57 00
Charles Gerald,	160 00
Town of Monson, schooling, Brown children,	21 75
" " Settlement bridge account,	55 48
City of Fitchburg, support of Persons family,	182 45
Town of Brimfield,	39 63
Rent of School-house at Depot,	25 00
" " Three Rivers,	27 00
" " Thorndike,	8 50
E. N. Fay, tuition of scholar,	7 25
P. W. Webster, circus license,	15 00
" " for old plank,	11 70
Silas Ruggles, old iron, Three Rivers bridge,	100 00
Will of Calvin Thompson,	921 52
J. A. Palmer, for old stove,	1 00
E. B. Gates, " " "	1 00
Ware Savings Bank, borrowed,	4,500 00
Shem Loomis, " "	1,100 00
Reuben Rogers, " "	1,000 00

Received of Permelia Rogers, borrowed,	\$1,300 00
Sarah Chandler, “	400 00
Rebecca Gates, “	200 00
Nancy J. Loomis, “	200 00
P. P. Potter, “	2,600 00
Calvin Bliss, “	200 00
J. A. Palmer, tax 1872,	347 95
“ “ “ 1873,	22,169 10
	<hr/>
	\$40,229 10

EXPENDITURES.

State tax,	\$2,610 00
County tax,	2,550 75
State aid,	1,430 00
Interest on notes,	777 00
Support of schools,	5,816 65
For Highways,	2,378 15
For Bridges,	3,385 46
For Contingencies,	4,345 38
For Paupers,	1,195 48
New road and bridge,	7,450 00
New bridge,	4,352 19
New School-house,	1,215 49
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	\$37,506 55
 Total receipts,	 \$40,229 10
Total expenditures,	\$37,506 55
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Balance in Treasury,	\$2,722 55

Respectfully submitted,

JAS. B. SHAW, *Treasurer.*

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

EXPENDITURES FOR SCHOOLS.

Paid for teachers,	\$5,121 25
E. R. King, wood for Blanchard district,	5 62
C. R. Shaw, " Shaw "	40 85
Wilson Brainard, wood for Mason "	19 50
J. A. Squier, coal for Thorndike "	9 45
B. M. Fullerton, cash paid for erasers,	24 00
Perlin Bacon, care of school-house, Centre,	5 00
C. H. Brown, " " Blanchard,	5 00
Benny Johnson, " " Duck,	8 00
J. F. Holbrook, coal for Thorndike and Three Rivers,	123 47
Wood & Allen, liquid slate for blackboard,	25 97
Frank Eager, care school-house, Depot,	5 50
W. N. Packard, books and crayons,	5 37
F. A. Lupkin, care school-house, Three Rivers,	7 00
A. P. Kendall, wood for Centre school,	16 50
Frank Eager, cleaning school-house, Depot,	1 00
J. A. Squier, coal for Depot,	26 82
Alphonso Oakes, sawing wood for Depot,	2 35
Thorndike Co., wood for Thorndike,	5 00
L. Breard, " "	6 58
F. L. Gulley, " Three Rivers,	2 50
L. F. Whiting, wood and care of school-house,	24 50
Murdock Bros., books, crayons and brooms,	4 75
W. N. Packard, books and crayons, Thorndike,	1 83
Edward Hecox, care school-house, Three Rivers,	12 00
Silas Collis, care school-house, Duck,	22 00
Chas. H. Murdock, wood and brooms, Three Rivers,	4 00
P. P. & T. D. Potter, wood for Three Rivers,	3 00

Paid P. P. & T. D. Potter, wood for Thorndike,	\$6 67
“ “ “ “ Duck,	38 50
Wood & Allen, maps, books and crayons,	44 02
Geo. W. Nichols, care school-house, Thorndike,	10 00
Fred A. Loomis, “ “ Depot,	10 00
Jas. Harrington, “ “ Three Rivers,	10 00
Laura Blanchard, cash paid for cutting wood,	1 25
J. D. Sawyer, drawing coal, Thorndike,	5 25
T. W. Leete, care school-house, Thorndike,	12 00
W. H. Higgins, care school-house, Depot,	5 00
Purlin Bacon, “ “ Centre,	6 25
Purlin Bacon, sawing wood, Centre,	3 75
Samuel Gould, wood, Depot,	8 00
Nathaniel Braman, sawing wood, Depot,	4 00
A. F. Smith, care school-house, Blanchard,	6 50
Wm. Fenton, wood for Blanchard,	22 50
W. W. Higgins, care school-house, Depot,	8 00
Chas. Wright, “ “ “	2 50
M. C. Fenton, wood and work, Mason,	7 70
Wm. Ham, care school-house, Depot,	7 50
John Lyman, “ “ Blanchard,	6 00
Purlin Bacon, “ “ Centre,	6 50
Mrs. Sullivan, cleaning school-house, Depot,	75
Mrs. Wilder, “ “ “	2 50
J. A. Squier, coal, school-house, Depot,	9 00
Frank Stebbins, care school-house, Thorndike,	25 00
T. A. Leete, cash paid out for schools,	8 80
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	\$5,816 65

HIGHWAYS.

Paid L. A. Hastings, labor,	\$10 50
James Burns, “	2 50
E. Harvey, “	2 00
C. K. Shaw, “	2 00
C. A. Anderson, “	2 00
W. W. Snow, “	6 00
M. Whitney, “	320 00
A. P. Kendall, “	10 00

Paid E. Jones,	labor,	\$ 6 00
Jas. O. Neal,	"	10 00
Wm. Holbrook,	"	6 00
J. R. Wellman,	"	140 00
George Moores,	"	424 22
Geo. W. Randall,	"	28 06
J. O. Hamilton,	"	139 00
H. C. Smith,	"	84 00
N. Tallmadge,	"	340 95
M. E. Bartlett,	"	80 00
Chas. Sherman,	"	126 70
J. S. Loomis,	"	350 22
B. Olney,	"	188 00
Eugene Shoreley,	"	100 00
		<hr/>
		\$2,378 15

BRIDGES.

Paid J. M. Converse, building road and bridge at Duck,	\$1,850 00
P. P. & T. D. Potter, plank,	162 24
P. W. Webster, plank and labor on Fenton bridge,	5 00
P. W. Webster, " Rogers "	5 00
Hawks & Webster, painting Thorndike	" 43 50
Beri Johnson, labor on Shaw	" 19 00
Wm. Thompson, " "	" 54 00
Jones & Palmer, " "	" 16 00
P. W. Webster, " "	" 14 00
J. M. Stone, filling at Shaw	" 16 00
J. A. Hawks, painting Shaw	" 36 00
A. S. Prouty, half expense building Rogers'	" 375 00
A. S. Prouty, repairing Fenton and Nutting	" 198 55
Canterbury & Robinson, half expense building Bondville bridge,	475 00
T. V. Kent, repairing bridges,	52 50
Palmer Iron Foundry, castings for Shaw bridge,	29 27
Geo. Robinson, paint for Shaw bridge,	13 45
Geo. Robinson, paint for Thorndike bridge,	20 95
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	\$3,385 46

TOWN PAUPERS

Paid Murdock Bros., goods for Fitzgerald,	\$7 71
J. S. Loomis, flour for poor farm,	32 25
H. Loomis, coffin for Mrs. Bush,	10 00
Smith & Co., goods for poor farm,	50 63
V. Whipple, produce furnished pauper,	4 00
S. W. Lawrence, meat for poor farm, 1872,	2 59
J. A. Squier, coal for poor farm,	19 42
Eugene Shoreley, meat for poor farm,	6 44
Dimock & Woods, shoes for Calkins girl,	2 00
O. W. Studley, meat for poor farm,	24 63
C. W. Hastings & Co., meat for Patrick Foley,	8 25
Murdock Bros., goods for Mrs. J. Thayer,	5 00
Chas. Sherman, cash paid out for poor farm,	7 97
Smith & Co., goods for poor farm,	85 58
G. A. Murdock, goods for poor farm,	5 02
Mary Foley, for support of father,	50 00
S. Ruggles, attendance on town paupers,	7 50
Fosket & Holbrook, meal for poor farm,	39 60
Northampton Hospital, for support Harriet Gerald,	235 31
Northampton Hospital, " Elizabeth Carrao,	253 97
Northampton Hospital, " Johanna Stimpson,	80 20
Taunton Hospital, " Elizabeth Carrao,	16 00
Worcester Hospital, " Emily Hamilton,	90 50
City of Salem, support Peter Kreigler,	22 50
J. B. Shaw, goods for poor farm,	25 10
P. W. Webster, cash paid out for town paupers,	17 52
J. C. Warner, support of Mrs. Thompson,	74 85
Geo. Robinson, hardware for poor farm,	10 94
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	\$1,195 48

CONTINGENCIES.

Paid John Clough, making returns,	\$2 50
P. P. & T. D. Potter, wood for Persons family,	10 75
S. Ruggles, medical attendance " "	21 85
C. H. Murdock, goods for " "	56 74
Richard Thomas, house rent " "	14 00
A. R. Murdock, auctioneer,	2 50

Paid John M. Converse, interest on town order,	\$23 01
Beri Johnson, repairing poor-house,	25 52
S. Ruggles, attendance at court, Bagley case,	16 00
Robert McMaster, digging graves and returning deaths,	6 83
G. M. Fisk & Co., printing reports and advertising,	73 00
John Clough, services as assessor,	77 50
John Clough, books and stationery,	15 90
E. B. Gates, services as assessor,	60 00
P. P. & T. D. Potter, putting up railing, Bondville,	80 00
A. R. Smith, abating taxes, 1870, 1871 and 1872,	4 00
C. C. Shaw, services as assessor,	62 82
Timothy Lynes, land for new road,	75 00
Patt McKelligot, " "	15 00
Morris McKelligot, " "	15 00
John Conner, " "	18 00
Morris Conner, " "	18 00
Michael Griffin, " "	18 00
P. P. & T. D. Potter, building new road at Duck,	350 00
J. O. Hamilton, putting up railing,	5 50
Chas. Sherman, salary,	325 00
A. N. Dewey, land for lock-up,	200 00
Robt. McMaster, digging grave and returning death,	2 00
J. M. Stone, filling between new road and railroad,	85 50
Jonathan McElwain, digging graves and returning deaths,	2 25
J. K. Knox, furnishing water for highway,	5 00
Samuel Gould, " " "	5 00
Chas. Hastings, damage to wagon,	6 00
C. L. Gardner, legal papers,	7 00
J. M. Converse, settees for tramp-room,	8 00
C. A. Brown & Co., stove and pipe for tramp-room,	22 83
A. L. Haynes, opening graves and returning deaths,	29 10
Springfield Republican, advertising,	3 25
B. M. Fullerton, services school committee,	106 75
B. M. Fullerton, cash paid out for school purposes,	10 27
Thos. Monahan, returning deaths,	10 00
David Knox, going with hearse, &c.,	224 70
B. M. Fullerton, cash paid for horse hire,	3 50
J. B. Shaw, services as treasurer,	100 00
J. B. Shaw, services as town clerk,	15 00

Paid J. B. Shaw, recording births, marriages and deaths,	\$96 25
P. W. Webster, services selectman,	125 00
P. W. Webster, services overseer poor,	40 00
P. W. Webster, sending paupers to poor farm,	50 00
P. W. Webster, money paid out for town,	11 00
E. G. Murdock, services selectman,	125 00
E. G. Murdock, overseer poor and sending paupers,	50 00
E. G. Murdock, cash paid out for town,	6 30
T. D. Potter, selectman and overseer poor,	125 00
J. A. Palmer, collecting taxes, 1872,	150 00
T. A. Leete, school committee,	125 00
P. P. & T. D. Potter, building and taking down temporary bridges at Three Rivers,	166 00
P. P. & T. D. Potter, filling in at Bondville bridge,	71 00
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	\$3,379 12

REPAIRS ON SCHOOL-HOUSES.

Paid Albert Burleigh, lumber and windows for Three Rivers,	\$34 34
T. A. Leete, cash paid for repairs, Thorndike,	10 95
E. B. Hastings, repairing school-house, Depot,	2 00
E. C. Sexton, painting school-house, Blanchard,	29 05
N. Taylor, setting glass, Depot,	2 50
E. C. Sexton, painting fence, Blanchard,	48 12
John P. Barnes, repairing on school-house, Depot,	13 25
John P. Barnes, repairing on school-house, Blanchard,	20 88
T. A. Leete, cash paid for repairs and advertising,	15 30
H. G. Cross, repairing school-house bell, Depot,	6 75
W. H. Clark, marine clock, school-house, Depot,	4 50
John Barnes, work and material on blinds, Depot,	16 35
T. A. Leete, cash paid for repairing and cleaning school houses,	15 87
Miller & Sexton, painting school-house, Depot,	38 35
J. R. Wellman, filling around school-house, Depot,	6 00
C. A. Brown, stove and pipe, Depot,	33 25
A. M. Bond, " " Three Rivers,	42 45
A. M. Bond, repairs on furnace, Thorndike,	2 05
H. G. Loomis, settees for Depot,	24 00
J. P. Barnes, lumber and work on coal-bin, Depot,	16 82

Paid S. Ruggles, cash paid for repairs, Three Rivers,	\$18 50
A. W. Braman, fitting keys, school house, Depot,	2 50
E. S. Brooks, repairing clock, " "	75
E. L. Davis, basket for " "	1 00
Geo. Robinson, paints for " Blanchard,	45 35
" " Hardware for " Thorndike,	3 98
" " " " " Depot,	29 06
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	\$483 92

STATE PAUPERS.

Paid Dr. J. K. Warren, attendance on State paupers,	\$7 00
L. D. Tiffany, keeping State paupers,	5 50
Murdock Bros., goods for Thriftlet Massier,	3 58
H. G. Loomis, coffins for State paupers,	15 00
Frank Twiss, care Patrick Newton,	186 00
J. A. Squier, coal delivered Mrs. Donavan,	9 00
H. G. Loomis, coffin for Patrick Newton,	15 00
G. A. Murdock, goods for " "	1 50
Wm. Holbrook, attendance on " "	12 00
S. Ruggles, " "	8 00
S. Ruggles, support of Susan Day, at his house,	136 00
Wm. Holbrook, attendance on Michael Wood,	50 00
P. W. Webster, cash paid out for State paupers,	33 76
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Contingencies—State Paupers,	\$482 34
" Repairs of School Houses,	\$483 92
"	3,379 12
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Total amount of Contingencies,	\$4,345 38

NEW SCHOOL HOUSE.

Paid L. F. Whiting, for land,	\$50 00
Barney Smith, labor,	82 50
O. F. Kendall, " "	183 51
P. P. & T. D. Potter, lumber,	353 87
Silas Ruggles, services as building com., and teams,	33 50
W. E. Miller, paint and labor,	14 00
L. Hilton, windows, blinds and doors,	39 65

Paid A. R. Smith, building foundation and drawing materials,	88 50
J. M. Hammett, furniture,	187 70
T. A. Leete, cash paid for freight on furniture,	
and expenses to Boston,	19 95
E. Hathaway, pump and labor,	16 00
P. S. Trumble, insurance,	16 00
A. Burleigh, lumber,	25 42
A. M. Bond, stove and pipe,	9 65
Fosket & Holbrook, lime and hair,	7 60
B. M. Fullerton, services as building committee,	10 55
Geo. Robinson, paint and hardware,	77 09
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	\$1,215 49

IRON BRIDGE AT THREE RIVERS.

Paid Joel Thompson, labor on stone work,	\$107 50
E. Truesdell, labor, .	183 75
Geo. Robinson, hardware,	40 72
E. Jones, labor,	50 00
John Paul, labor,	49 50
Geo. Bishop, “	90 62
Fred Blair, “	34 50
Daniel McCarty, labor,	4 50
Salem Tatro, “	57 37
Perlin Thompson, labor,	45 00
Mr. Clarence, “	6 70
Calvin Johnson, “	25 55
W. P. Webster, “	73 50
P. W. Webster, “	169 50
Mr. Stone, filling in west end,	12 00
C. H. Murdock, lighting bridge,	6 00
P. P. & T. D. Potter, lumber and labor,	541 92
Silas Ruggles, filling half river to pier,	2,750 00
P. W. Webster, cash paid for weighing iron, and	
plank and tools lost,	18 56
Hawks & Webster, painting,	57 00
Peleg Bosworth, wrench lost,	3 00
Geo. Robinson, paint,	25 00
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	\$4,352 19

NEW ROAD AND BRIDGE AT THREE RIVERS.

Paid Silas Ruggles, for building,	\$7,450 00
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SUMMARY.

Paid for Schools,	\$5,816 65
Building new school-house,	1,215 49
Highways,	2,378 15
Bridges,	3,385 46
Contingencies,	4,345 38
Paupers,	1,195 48
Aid to soldiers and families,	1,430 00
Interest on notes,	777 00
State tax,	2,610 00
County tax,	2,550 75
Iron bridge at Three Rivers,	4,352 19
New road and bridge at Three Rivers,	7,450 00
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	\$37,506 55

DEBTS OF THE TOWN.

Notes due on demand :

Robert McMaster,	\$1,500 00
Ralph Green,	1,000 00
Waterman Fuller,	500 00
Susan Fenton,	500 00
Susan E. Rogers,	500 00
Mrs. Mary B. Webster,	450 00
Reuben Rogers,	1,650 00
Reuben Rogers,	1,000 00
Permelia Rogers,	1,300 00
Shem Loomis,	1,100 00
Nancy J. Loomis,	200 00
Sarah Chandler,	400 00
Rebecca Gates,	200 00
Calvin Bliss,	200 00
P. P. Potter,	2,600 00
Ware Savings Bank,	4,500 00
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	\$17,600 00

Notes due in five years :

Robert McMaster,	\$1,500 00	
A. N. Dewey,	1,400 00	
J. K. Child, (adm'r,)	1,500 00	
	<hr/>	\$4,400 00
		\$22,000 00
Interest on the above, (estimated,)		1,000 00
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		\$23,000 00

CLAIMS AGAINST THE TOWN, MARCH 4, 1874.

Notes and interest,	\$23,000 00	
Due G. A. King, collector, 1871,	115 00	
Due J. A. Palmer, collector, 1873,	175 00	
	<hr/>	\$23,290 00

DUE THE TOWN, MARCH 4, 1874.

Balance in Treasury,	\$2,722 55	
From State, for State aid,	1,397 50	
From State, for State paupers,	437 58	
From G. A. King, collector, 1871,	718 36	
From J. A. Palmer, collector, 1873,	2,052 66	
From Town of Chicopee,	16 13	
From Franklin Morgan estate, for school-houses,	245 00	
From rent of school-house hall at Duck,	50 00	
	<hr/>	\$7,639 78
Balance against the town,		\$15,650 22

E. G. MURDOCK,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
P. W. WEBSTER,	
T. D. POTTER,	
	<i>of</i>
	<i>Palmer.</i>

Report of the Overseers of the Poor.

For the Year ending March 1, 1874.

Inventory, March 1, 1873,	\$1,606 46	
Interest on cost of farm,	180 00	
Superintendent's salary,	325 00	
Expenses out,	1,325 06	
	<hr/>	\$3,436 52

RECEIPTS.

Inventory, March 1, 1874,	\$1,576 53	
Receipts from poor farm,	169 58	
	<hr/>	\$1,746 11
Cost of Town paupers at farm, hospitals and out of town,	\$1,690 41	
Number of State paupers lodged at poor-farm,	649	

E. G. MURDOCK,	} Overseers of the Poor.
P. W. WEBSTER,	
T. D. POTTER,	

TOWN WARRANT.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HAMPDEN, SS.

To JASON A. PALMER, Constable of the Town of Palmer, Greeting :

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn all the inhabitants of the town of Palmer qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Palmer, on Monday, the sixteenth day of March, inst., at 10 o'clock, A. M., to act on the following articles, viz :

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

ART. 2. To determine the number of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Assessors, School Committee, and Constables, the town will choose for the ensuing year.

ART. 3. To elect all necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

ART. 4. To act upon the Report of the School Committee, Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and other town officers.

ART. 5. To raise such sums of money as are necessary to defray the current expenses of the town for the ensuing year.

ART. 6. To see if the town will raise any money to reduce the debt of the town.

ART. 7. To determine the manner of repairing the highways and bridges for the ensuing year.

ART. 8. To determine the manner the town will take to collect the taxes that may be assessed, and state the terms and conditions of the same.

ART. 9. To see if the town will allow a discount upon the taxes that may be assessed the ensuing year.

ART. 10. To see if the town will make any by-laws and regulations to prevent the pasturing of cattle and other animals upon the streets and highways of the town.

ART. 11. To see if the town will accept the list of Jurors, as revised by the Selectmen.

ART. 12. To see if the town will build one or more tombs in town, and appropriate money for the same.

ART. 13. To choose Committees and give them instructions.

ART. 14. To hear Reports of Committees, and act thereon.

ART. 15. To see if the town will vote to choose a Truant Committee for the ensuing year.

ART. 16. To see if the town will authorize the Selectmen to put up Guide-boards in all places where they are required by law.

ART. 17. To see what by-laws the town will enact concerning truant children, and act thereon.

ART. 18. To see if the town will vote to refund to the heirs of the late Benjamin A. Burleigh any portion of the taxes which have been improperly assessed against them, or take any other action thereto.

ART. 19. To see what action, if any, the town will take in relation to filling or raising the road lying between the Merrick bridge and house of Elisha Warren, to prevent its being flowed in times of high water.

ART. 20. To see if the town will vote to shingle the Town House, and build a fence between the Town House lot and land of J. K. Tirrell, and appropriate money for the same.

ART. 21. To see what disposition the town will make of the money received under the will of Calvin Thompson.

ART. 22. To see what action the town will take to provide a lock-up and tramp-room.

ART. 23. To see if the town will accept two certain town ways, as laid out by the Selectmen, in the Depot Village of Palmer, as follows: One from Bridge street, Southeasterly, about eight rods, to land of Boston and Albany Railroad Company, being a continuation of Pleasant street; and one from Thorndike street, Northwesterly, about twenty-six rods, to Knox street, just Southwesterly of houses of John Foster and Jason A. Palmer.

ART. 24. To see what action the town will take to collect the money due the town from George A. King, Collector for the year 1871.

The names of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Assessors, School Committee, and Constables, who are voted for, must be all on one ballot; Town Clerk and Treasurer on a separate ballot. And you are hereby requested to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at the different public places designated by a vote of the town, seven days at least before the holding of said meeting, and cause this Warrant to be printed in a newspaper, called the Palmer Journal, at least two issues before the time of holding said meeting. Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, on or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands, this third day of March, A. D. 1874.

ELIJAH G. MURDOCK, } *Selectmen*
PARKER W. WEBSTER, } *of*
TIMOTHY D. POTTER, } *Palmer.*

SCHOOL REPORT.

WE have to report that, during the past year, there has been an increased attention to their schools on the part of the citizens of some portions of the town. It has had the effect to stimulate both the scholars and the teachers. The outlook is hopeful because of recent large improvement in some schools. When teachers can feel that they are working for an appreciative public, the quality of their efforts will be better, and the quantity greater, than they will be when they feel that, though public servants, they are watched with suspicion and at a distance, instead of with sympathy and by actual examination of the schools under their charge. There have been conspicuous faithfulness and energy shown by several teachers. The results have appeared in the conduct and progress of their pupils. If the town, while exercising all due care in appropriating money and seeing to its judicious expenditure, will feel that the committee are seeking only the best progress of the children of the township, there will be a speedy and beneficent reformation in several respects in which Palmer schools yet lag.

We can but see it to be very desirable, indeed, that

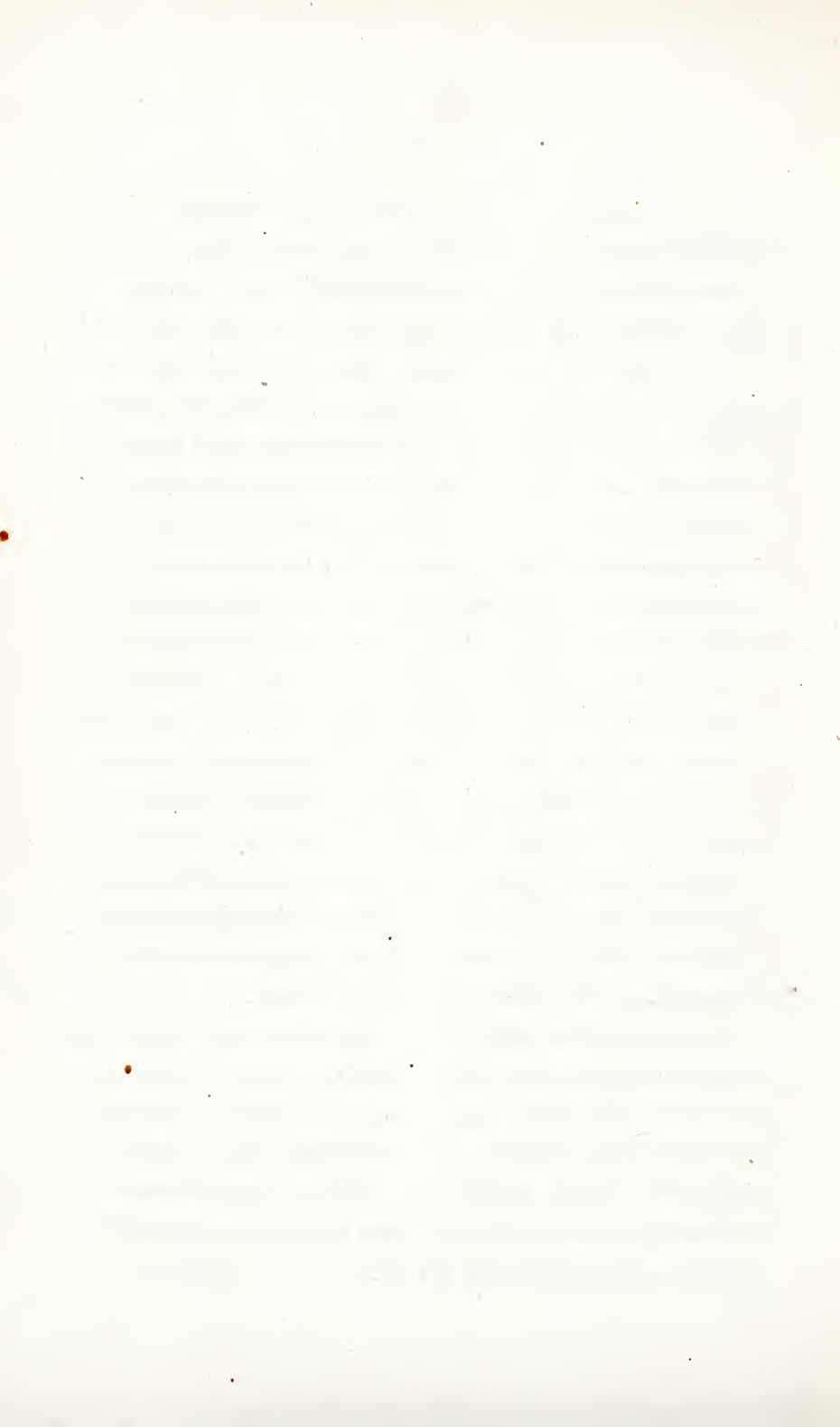
the committee have the means of paying the expenses of two or three new schools. One more is much needed in Palmer village; another is demanded in Thorndike; it would be well if there were a third school in Bondsville. Soon such a necessity will arise in Three Rivers. We have not now the pecuniary ability to establish either. Pupils in the primary department are too numerous to be well taught by one teacher in each of the villages. With the establishment of the new schools suggested, a system would be set up which would vastly increase the efficiency of each of the departments. We have the room for such schools, but not the means of paying teachers for them. When schools number seventy or eighty pupils, it is simply impossible for a teacher to teach an individual scholar more than a very little. As long as so great a proportion of the education of our youth is obtained in the lower grades of schools, while so many enter life from the primary and intermediate departments, it is clear that these grades should be made as efficient as possible. And, besides, we are scarcely keeping to the legal standard as to numbers in several instances.

We should be glad to see such an interest on the part of citizens in the education of the people as to insure an appropriation of *not less* than seven thousand dollars for the support of our schools the coming year. Every cent of this sum, and more, could be judiciously expended.

It is apparent, from the frequent demands of the people, that there should be a man employed the entire year in the higher grade of school in each village. A revolution of no small importance has been wrought by the presence and directing energy of one man in the schools of Palmer village during the last two terms. Where disorder and general carelessness had been rife formerly, now order and increased studiousness and regularity reign. Whereas, the property of the town used to be wantonly destroyed, the fences and the appointments of the school-house are now preserved. This is not only a credit but a saving to the town. The same kind of a revolution might be effected in each of our villages. But in order to employ four male teachers all the time, we need a larger appropriation.

We have continued the terms in the out districts the past year the same length of time that limited the village schools. This seems to be the will of the people. In order, however, to serve their will in this particular, there should be a readiness to appropriate annually a somewhat more liberal sum for expenses.

In connection with these general suggestions, we annex a summary financial exhibit of this department of town expenditures: Raised by taxation, \$5,000; School Fund, \$245.47; Merrick Fund, \$57; Dog Tax, \$368.62. Total, \$5,671.09. Total expenditures for schools (teachers, fuel, and care of houses), \$5,702.71. Excess of expenditures, \$31.62.



TABULAR STATEMENT.

LOCATION.	TEACHERS.	Wages.	Months.	Whole No. School.	Av. No.
PALMER, High.....	Arthur T. Muzzy....	\$50.50	3	28	17
“ Intermediate...	Sarah A. Drury.....	40	3	50	40
“ Primary.....	L. Jennie Roys.....	40	3	65	44
THORNDIKE, Grammar...	Adah Louise Larned..	40	3	16	13
“ Intermediate	Luella M. Ewings...	35	3	39	29
“ Primary....	M. Emma Murdock..	35	3	89	67
BONDSVILLE, Gram. & In.	Eliza J. Howard....	35	3	32	26
“ Primary....	Minnie H. Lotrace..	35	3	80	67
THREE RIVERS, Gr. & In.	Maria E. Harris....	35	3	20	11
“ “ Primary..	Louise R. Shumway..	35	3	52	35
BLANCHARDVILLE, Mixed.	Laura P. Blanchard..	35	3	22	14
CENTRE, “	Helen King.....	35	3	42	34
WHITING, “	Kate L. Hazeltine...	35	3	14	11
MASON, “	Esther A. Graves...	32	3	9	8
SHAW, “	Lilla P. Conant.....	32	3	14	9
PALMER, High.....	A. Gardner Fisher...	\$65	3	34	23
“ Intermediate...	{ Clara Childs	35.83	3	54	43
“ “	{ L. Jennie Roys....				
“ Primary.....	{ L. Jennie Roys....	40	3	62	42
“ “	{ J. M. Fullerton...				
THORNDIKE, Grammar...	Ella L. Leete.....	38	3	17	13
“ Intermediate	Luella M. Ewings...	35	3	44	33
“ Primary....	M. Emma Murdock..	35	3	70	54
BONDSVILLE, Gram. & In.	Hattie J. Morse....	35	2 3-5	35	25
“ Primary....	Minnie H. Lotrace...	35	3	68	39
THREE RIVERS, Gr. & In.	Jennie R. Albee....	38	3	26	22
“ “ Primary..	Louise R. Shumway..	35	3	41	29
BLANCHARDVILLE, Mixed.	Laura P. Blanchard..	35	3	32	23
CENTRE, “	Helen King.....	35	3	53	42
WHITING, “	Kate L. Hazeltine...	35	3	19	14
MASON, “	Esther A. Graves...	32	3	9	7
SHAW, “	Lilla P. Conant.....	32	3	14	11
PALMER, High.....	A. Gardner Fisher...	\$65	3	29	23
“ Intermediate...	L. Jennie Roys.....	40	3	56	49
“ Primary.....	Mary D. Wallis....	36	3	55	40
THORNDIKE, Grammar...	Charles E. Cochran..	50	3	26	23
“ Intermediate	Luella M. Ewings...	35	3	57	45
“ Primary....	M. Emma Murdock..	35	2 3-4	70	55
BONDSVILLE, Gram. & In.	M. Pliny Dickey....	50	3	51	36
“ Primary....	Sarah Sedgwick....	35	3	63	50
THREE RIVERS, Gr. & In.	George Burbeck....	50	3	31	26
“ “ Primary..	A. Louise Larned...	35	3	49	35
BLANCHARDVILLE, Mixed.	Laura P. Blanchard..	35	3	30	22
CENTRE, “	Helen King.....	35	3	33	29
WHITING, “	Mary L. Graves....	35	3	17	14
MASON, “	Esther A. Graves....	34	3	15	11
SHAW, “	Lilla P. Conant.....	32	3	16	11

Respectfully submitted,

B. M. FULLERTON, }
 SILAS RUGGLES, } *School Committee.*
 THEO. A. LEETE. }



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